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NORTH CAROLINA



COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

QUESTIONS PERTINENT TO THIS ISSUE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

1. DISCUSS JANUARY MILK PRODUCTION.
2. WHAT IS THE PROSPECTIVE LATE SPRING CABBAGE ACREAGE?
3. WHAT WAS THE TREND IN FURNITURE PRICES FROM SEPTEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER 1951?
4. WHAT CHANGES WERE NOTED IN FOOD PRICES DURING THE LAST THREE MONTHS OF 1951?
5. DISCUSS THE PLANTING AND HARVEST DATE TABLE ON PAGE 2.
6. HOW MANY EGGS WERE PRODUCED ON N. C. FARMS IN JANUARY?
7. COMPARE TOTAL SOYBEAN STOCKS ON FARMS THIS YEAR WITH LAST YEAR.
8. HOW DO CURRENT GRAIN STOCKS COMPARE WITH PREVIOUS YEARS?

No. 103

RALEIGH, N. C.

FEBRUARY 15, 1952

FEBRUARY 1, 1952 GENERAL FARM REPORT

GENERAL SITUATION FAIR

January rainfall was fairly generous in all sections of the State. Most of the rain was received during the latter part of January. Soils around the first of February were mostly too wet for any field work except in the east central and south-eastern sections. Temperatures during January were alternately cold and hot, averaging somewhat warmer than normal for the month.

Small grain crops are in generally fair to good condition throughout the State. The variable temperatures have not provided the best of conditions for maximum development of these crops. Some heaving in fields of late planted grain, especially those on heavy clay soils, is reported.

Some plowing was accomplished during the early part of January but this work was interrupted by rains the latter part of the month.

Pastures continue in below normal condition, having never fully recovered from the effects of dry weather during the past summer and fall. Pasture grasses are in only poor to fair condition in mountain and northern Piedmont areas. In southeastern areas pastures are poor. Conditions are somewhat better in southern Piedmont and northeastern coastal plains sections.

Hay and roughage supplies are short in Mountain counties, short to ample in Piedmont districts and generally ample throughout the coastal areas. Food grain supplies are short in mountain and upper Piedmont

(Continued on Page 3)

EGG PRODUCTION HIGH

North Carolina farm flocks produced 109 million eggs in January. The estimated 9,422,000 layers in farm flocks during the month produced an average of 1,156 eggs per 100. Weather conditions during January were generally favorable to egg production with above normal temperatures prevailing throughout most of the month.

RECORD JANUARY MILK PRODUCTION

Production of milk on North Carolina farms during January totaled 131 million pounds, the highest production of record for the month. Production last month exceeded production in January of last year by 12 percent or 14 million pounds.

Milk production during January was up 2 million pounds from December. This follows closely the usual seasonal pattern for this State with production showing an upturn in January or February.

There were an estimated 383,000 milk cows on North Carolina farms in January. Milk production per cow averaged 342 pounds - the highest ever reached for this month. A combination of an increase in number of cows on farms and record high production per cow account for pushing the month's milk production to a new record level.

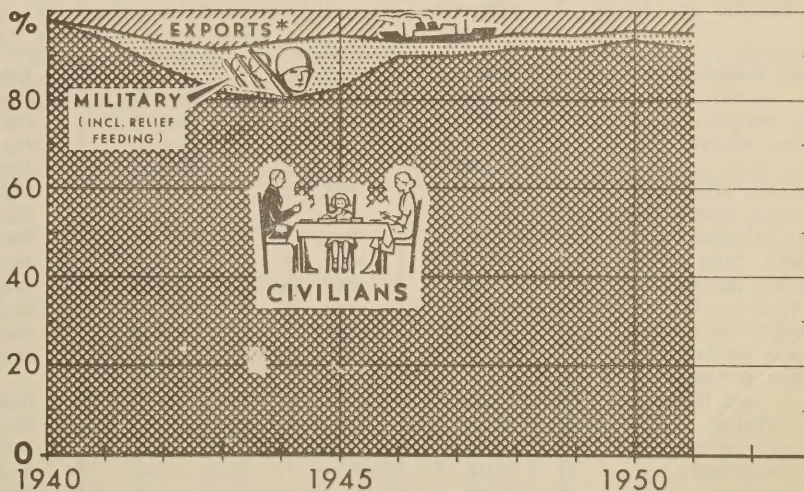
SOYBEAN STOCKS ABOVE YEAR AGO

Total soybean stocks on farm and off-farm storage in N. C. on January 1, 1952 amounted to 3,585,000 bushels or about 10 percent more than the 3,254,000 bushels held on the same date in 1951. Quantities held in both positions showed an increase over the preceding year. Off-farm stocks jumped from 1,876,000 bushels as of January 1, 1951 to 1,902,000 bushels a year later, while an even greater increase occurred in farm stocks which were 1,378,000 bushels a year ago as compared to 1,683,000 on January 1 of this year.

Meanwhile, National soybean stocks of 220 million bushels were stored in all positions on January 1, 1952. These stocks are the second largest of record, being exceeded only by the nearly 232 million bushels on hand January 1, 1951.

(Continued on Page 3)

WHERE U. S. FOOD GOES



* INCL. SHIPMENTS TO TERRITORIES AND NET PURCHASES BY USDA FOR LEND-LEASE AND OTHER PROGRAMS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 48232-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

JANUARY 1, 1952 GRAIN STOCKS, WITH COMPARISONS

CROP	NORTH CAROLINA						UNITED STATES					
	ON-FARM		OFF-FARM 1/		TOTAL STOCKS		ON-FARM		OFF-FARM 1/		TOTAL STOCKS	
	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952
	THOUSAND BUSHEL						THOUSAND BUSHEL					
CORN	48,538	44,416	1,201	1,369	49,739	45,785	2,106,698	1,919,269	503,800	464,601	2,610,498	2,383,870
WHEAT	1,282	3,155	970	1,196	2,252	4,351	335,439	339,336	666,254	517,143	1,001,693	856,479
OATS	4,090	4,995	358	437	4,448	5,432	879,673	841,889	61,545	68,228	941,218	909,117
RYE	36	27	1	1	37	28	6,779	6,493	11,645	9,191	18,424	15,684
BARLEY	250	491	14	33	264	524	139,780	124,287	104,322	78,455	244,102	202,742
SOYBEANS	1,378	1,683	1,876	1,902	3,254	3,585	101,728	103,380	130,023	116,646	231,751	220,026

1/ Includes, in addition to stocks in Interior Mills, Elevators and Warehouses and Merchant Mills commercial stocks reported by Grain Branch, FMA, at terminals and stocks in Interior Mills, Elevators and Warehouses estimated by the Crop Reporting Board

N. C. GRAIN STOCKS DOWN

Stocks of grains in all positions in North Carolina on January 1 showed a decrease from stocks on hand a year earlier.

The 45,785,000 bushels of corn held in all positions in the State on January 1, 1952 was 3,954,000 bushels below stocks on hand a year earlier. Of the total, 97 percent or 44,416,000 bushels were stored on the farm and 1,369,000 bushels were held in off-farm positions.

January 1 wheat stocks totalled 4,351,000 bushels, 93 percent more than the 2,252,000 bushels stored in North Carolina a year earlier. On-farm stocks of 3,155,000 bushels compare with the January 1, 1951 stocks of 1,282,000 bushels.

Oats stocks were 22 percent great-

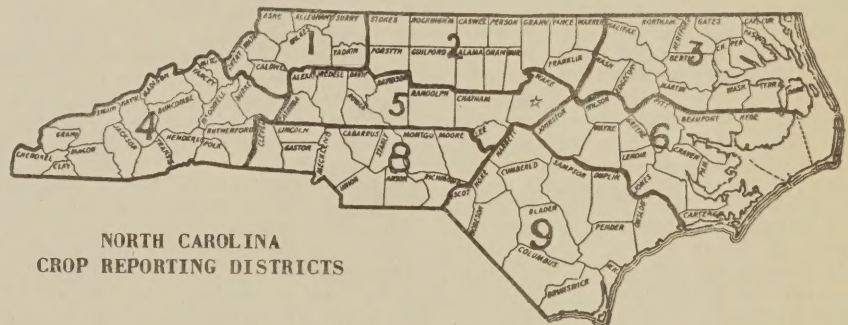
(Continued on Page 3)

USUAL PLANTING AND HARVEST DATES

The table below gives the 1951 harvested acreage, usual planting dates, and the bulk harvest dates for the major field crops grown in North Carolina. The principal

producing areas for each crop are also indicated.

This data is published in response to the frequent request received for this information.



NORTH CAROLINA
CROP REPORTING DISTRICTS

NORTH CAROLINA: USUAL PLANTING AND HARVEST TIME FOR MAJOR FIELD CROPS

CROP	Acres harvesting- 1951	Main Plantings		Bulk of Harvest		Principal 1/ producing areas
		From Month Day	To Month Day	From Month Day	To Month Day	
<u>Field Crops</u>	<u>(Thous.)</u>					
Corn.....	2,181	Apr. 15	May 31	Oct. 10	Dec. 15	Statewide
Wheat, winter.....	381	Oct. 1	Nov. 15	June 5	July 5	2, 5, 8
Oats, winter.....		Sept. 25	Nov. 10	May 25	July 5	2, 5, 8
Oats, spring.....	2/ 402	Feb. 15	Apr. 5	June 15	July 15	3, 6, 8, 9
Barley, winter.....	35	Oct. 1	Nov. 10	May 20	July 15	5
Rye.....	15	Sept. 20	Nov. 15	June 1	July 10	Statewide
Potatoes, all.....	49	Feb. 1	June 15	May 15	Oct. 15	Statewide
Potatoes, com'l. early	18.5	Feb. 1	Mar. 10	May 15	July 20	3, 6, 9
Sweet Potatoes.....	40	May. 1	May 31	Sept. 5	Nov. 10	3, 5, 6, 9
Tobacco, flue cured..	735	Apr. 10	June 15	June 15	Sept. 25	2, 3, 5, 6, 9
Tobacco, burley.....	12.1	May 15	June 30	Aug. 25	Oct. 10	1, 4
Cotton.....	690	Apr. 15	May 31	Sept. 10	Nov. 15	3, 6, 8, 9
Soybeans for beans...	300	Apr. 25	June 25	Sept. 20	Nov. 25	3, 6, 9
Cowpeas for peas.....	19	May 15	July 5	Aug. 25	Nov. 25	6, 8, 9
Peanuts for picking and threshing.	230	Apr. 20	June 15	Sept. 15	Dec. 31	3, 6, 9
Hay, alfalfa.....	60	-	-	May 1	Sept. 30	Statewide
Hay, clover-timothy...	108	-	-	June 1	Aug. 15	1, 4
Hay, lespedeza.....	498	-	-	Aug. 1	Sept. 25	2, 5, 8
Hay, soybean.....	132	-	-	Sept. 1	Oct. 15	3, 6, 9
Lespedeza seed.....	178	-	-	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	2, 5, 8

1/ Numbers indicate crop reporting Districts (see State map).

2/ Includes both fall and spring planted crop.

AVERAGE PRICES PAID FOR FURNITURE BY NORTH CAROLINA & UNITED STATES FARMERS WITH COMPARISONS, 1950-1951

ITEM	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		SEPT. 15 1951	DEC. 15 1951	DEC. 15 1950	SEPT. 15 1951	DEC. 15 1951	DEC. 15 1950
RUGS, AXMINSTER, 9' x 12'.....	EACH	81.00	78.00	73.00	90.50	89.40	79.80
RUGS, FELT BASE, 9' x 12'.....	EACH	11.00	11.00	10.50	10.40	10.40	10.30
DINING-ROOM SUITS.....	EACH	220.00	235.00	210.00	233.00	234.00	221.00
LIVING-ROOM SUITS.....	EACH	150.00	150.00	145.00	184.00	185.00	174.00
BEDROOM SUITS.....	EACH	160.00	150.00	145.00	172.00	170.00	163.00
BEDSTEADS, METAL, DOUBLE.....	EACH	15.00	14.50	14.50	15.40	15.40	14.90
MATTRESSES 54", FELTED COTTON.....	EACH	28.00	25.50	25.00	24.30	24.30	22.80
BED SPRINGS, DOUBLE, SAGLESS.....	EACH	18.00	18.00	17.00	18.50	18.60	17.40
KITCHEN CABINETS.....	EACH	56.00	56.00	56.00	58.50	58.50	57.10
STOVES, COAL OR WOOD.....	EACH	98.60	100.00	91.00	116.00	117.00	115.00
WASHING MACHINES, ELECTRIC.....	EACH	141.00	140.00	135.00	133.00	135.00	128.00

FURNITURE PRICES INCREASE

Prices paid by North Carolina farmers for selected furniture items increased during the year from December 15, 1950 to December 15, 1951 (See table above).

Metal bedsteads at \$14.50 each and kitchen cabinets at \$56.00 were the same on both dates. The percentage increase in price of the other items ranged from 2.0 for felt cotton mattresses to 11.9 percent for dining room suites. Wood and coal kitchen ranges advanced from \$91.00 to \$100.00, an increase of 9.9 percent.

In some instances prices on December 15, 1951 were lower than on September 15, 1951.

Furniture prices paid by U. S. farmers were also higher on December 15, 1951 than a year earlier.

GENERAL SITUATION (Continued)

areas, but are generally ample elsewhere.

Farm labor supplies continue to be reported as scarce and high priced. In eastern areas farmers are finding it difficult to obtain tenants for the coming year. High industrial wages continue to attract farm workers.

N. C. GRAIN STOCKS (Continued)

er than a year ago with 92 percent of the 5,432,000 bushels held in storage on the farm. Off-farm stocks were up 22 percent from January 1, 1951.

Rye stocks were down from the 1951 total. Rye held in all positions totalled 28,000 bushels, down 32 percent from 1951.

Barley stocks were up from the 1951 total. Barley held in all positions totalled 524,000 bushels, up 98 percent from 1951.

In the U. S. stocks of corn in all storage positions on January 1, 1952 totalled 2,384 million bushels. This total is about 9 percent smaller than January 1 stocks in 1949 and 1951 and sharply less than the record of 2,806 million bushels on January 1, 1950, but is larger than in any of the other 5 years of comparable record. About 1,919 million bushels of corn remained on farms, a quantity smaller than in 8 of the past 10 years. From the October 1, 1951 supply of corn for grain of about 3,392 million bushels, current stocks indicate disappearance to January 1, of 1,008 million bushels, a quantity exceeded in the October-December quarter only in 1943, 1949 and 1950.

Oats stocks of 910 million bushels on January 1 are larger than in 4 of the 8 years of record.

SOYBEAN STOCKS (Continued)

Included in the current totals are farm stocks of over 103 million bushels and nearly 45 million bushels in interior mills, elevators and warehouses, as estimated by the Crop Reporting Board.

Stocks in both positions are of record size. Also included in the total are nearly 10 million bushels of commercial stocks at terminals, as reported by the Production and Marketing Administration, and 62 million bushels in processing plants as enumerated by the Bureau of the Census.

DECEMBER FOOD PRICES HIGHER THAN YEAR EARLIER

Prices paid by North Carolina farmers for most items of food were higher on December 15, 1951 than on December 15, 1950 (See table below).

Butter and round steak advanced more than any of the other items. Farmers were also paying higher prices for flour, corn meal, rice lard and coffee. Slightly lower prices were paid for bacon, oranges and apples. Sugar and tea prices were unchanged.

Items of food which advanced in North Carolina also advanced in the United States.

AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES FARMERS FOR SPECIFIED FOOD ITEMS WITH COMPARISONS, 1950-1951

ITEMS	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		SEPT. 15 1951	DEC. 15 1951	DEC. 15 1950	SEPT. 15 1951	DEC. 15 1951	DEC. 15 1950
		- CENTS -					
SUGAR.....	PER 10 LBS.	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	104.0
FLOUR.....	PER 25 LBS.	210.0	210.0	205.0	214.0	216.0	204.0
BREAD, WHITE.....	PER LB.	16.5	-	15.7	15.9	-	15.1
CORN MEAL.....	PER LB.	6.0	6.1	6.0	7.03	7.18	6.84
ROLLED OATS, PACKAGED.....	PER LB.	15.0	-	14.9	13.6	-	12.8
RICE.....	PER LB.	-	18.2	17.9	-	17.6	17.2
BACON.....	PER LB.	60.0	58.0	61.0	60.0	57.1	59.5
ROUND STEAK.....	PER LB.	105.0	99.0	91.0	100.0	99.2	89.1
PORK CHOPS.....	PER LB.	-	-	-	69.4	63.7	60.7
LARD.....	PER LB.	26.0	25.0	24.2	25.3	24.2	23.2
BUTTER.....	PER LB.	81.0	85.0	76.0	79.0	85.1	75.1
CHEESE, AMERICAN.....	PER LB.	61.0	-	54.0	60.0	-	54.1
COFFEE.....	PER LB.	86.0	86.0	84.0	88.4	88.2	85.2
TEA, ORANGE PEKOE.....	PER LB.	-	130.0	130.0	-	131.0	131.0
ORANGES, 216'S.....	PER DOZ.	46.0	30.0	33.0	48.3	44.9	45.1
BANANAS.....	PER LB.	14.9	-	14.9	16.9	-	16.7
APPLES, FRESH.....	PER LB.	9.5	10.0	10.9	11.0	11.4	11.2

FARM REPORT

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FEBRUARY 15, 1952

FARM REPORT

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JANUARY WEATHER SUMMARY

January was in general a mild month, more like spring than mid-winter. There was greater-than-average cloudiness, but with some sunshine on most days. Winds were a little lighter and more variable in direction than is usual in January. Pressure patterns on the weather map moved sluggishly rather than with the usual winter vigor, and there was a marked tendency for high pressure to remain centered over the southeastern states or the nearby ocean waters. Most of the series of cold weather fronts that pushed southeastward out of central Canada during the month either failed to reach as far as North Carolina or lost much of their force before arriving.

January was a warm month - warmer in relation to long term averages for the season than any month of 1951, which was a warm year. Numerous high temperature records, established over a period of half a century or more, were broken during the first two days of the month, and cooling that followed was gradual and not severe. On two subsequent periods, near the middle of the month and again near the 27th, temperatures rose to 70 degrees or higher over most of the State. Even in the mountains, the mercury failed to drop to freezing on more than half the days. Monthly temperature averages over the State were about seven degrees above normal.

Although average rainfall for the State was a little greater than the usual amount for January, most of the coastal plain had a little less than usual. Less than two inches fell on some of the extreme southern counties. Even so, there were no extremely dry places, and soil moisture was maintained or even increased in most areas.

CABBAGE INTENTIONS CUT 10%

Growers in North Carolina have indicated they intend to plant 2,150 acres of late spring cabbage this year. If these intentions are carried out, the spring cabbage acreage will be about 10 percent smaller than the 2,400 acres harvested in 1951, but 25 percent larger than the 10-year average.

December and January freezes cut the home grown plant supply rather sharply. However it is believed that most growers will be able to obtain all the plants they need from southern growers.

By February 1, most of the acreage had been set in Currituck County while in other areas, rain and wet soils were delaying setting operations.

In the late spring group of states, including North Carolina, growers indicate their intentions to plant 10,710 acres of cabbage. This represents a 10 percent reduction from the 11,900 acres harvest last year and compares with the 10 year average of 10,570 acres harvested.

Some reduction from last year's harvested acreage is expected in every state except Washington. Virginia and Maryland growers expect to plant 8 percent less than they harvested in 1951, while Missouri growers indicate a 13 percent acreage reduction. In Maryland, the largest producer of late spring cabbage, planted acreage is expected to be 14 percent less than the 3,500 acres harvested last year.

The table below shows the 1952 intended acreage, with comparisons.

PROSPECTIVE LATE SPRING CABBAGE ACREAGE

STATE	ACREAGE		
	10-YEAR AVERAGE 1941-50	1951	PROSPECTIVE 1952
N. C.....	1,720	2,400	2,150
VA.....	1,540	2,400	2,200
MD.....	1,480	1,300	1,200
TENN.....	3,360	3,500	3,000
KY.....	280	200	170
OHIO.....	500	450	400
MO.....	1,110	1,100	960
WASH.....	550	550	630
TOTAL LATE SPRING....	10,570	11,900	10,710

NORTH CAROLINA INCHES OF RAINFALL DURING JANUARY, 1952

